GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3569
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2009
HAJ QUOTA TO MP S
Mohan Shri P. C.;Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has fixed any quota for Members of Parliament (MP) for recommending allotment of seats for Haj Yatra;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of recommendations received and accepted from the MPs during the last three years and the current year, year-wise; and

(d) the total amount of subsidy given to the Haj yatris during the said period year-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) & (b) Yes. Each Member of Parliament can recommend two persons for Haj.

(c) Scores of requests are received from Hon'ble MPs which are given due consideration. During the current year, while the Haj 2009 process is going on, recommendations are being received on a regular basis from Hon'ble MPs. The total number of recommendations receive and accepted during the last three years is as follows:

2006 1866
2007 770
2008 1037

(d) The current year's process is still ongoing, but the figure is expected to be higher. Available information is enclosed at Annexure 'A'. The Government subsidises the international air travel of the Haj pilgrims by charging an amount of Rs. 12,000/- only per person.